

# Memorandum



**Date:** March 8, 2005

**To:** Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

INLUC  
Agenda Item No. 4 (B)  
Supplement

**From:** George M. Burgess  
County Manager

**Subject:** Report on North Corridor Expedite Ratification Item Considered by the Infrastructure  
and Land Use Committee

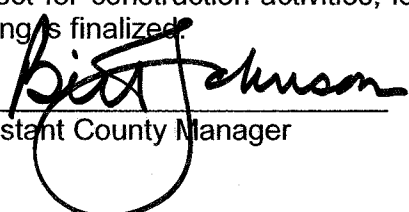
At the January 11, 2005, Infrastructure and Land Use Committee meeting, several Commissioners requested clarification of a Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) item appearing on the Expedite Ratification List. Specifically, a brief report was requested explaining the Third Supplemental Agreement to HNTB, Inc., for planning work on the North Corridor and the relationship between this item and the progress of the corridor as a whole. The following is a brief update on the North Corridor project.

The Third Supplemental Agreement was approved by the County Manager under the procedures of the Expedite Ordinance (Ordinance No. 00-104) for the sole purpose of extending the contract duration by 120 days to avoid the expiration of the contract period while MDT negotiated an additional scope of work for the North Corridor as requested by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The contract was originally scheduled to expire on November 16, 2004, and was extended to March 16, 2005, under the Third Supplemental Agreement.

The extension of the contract period was necessary to allow MDT and HNTB to continue project activities while negotiating a Fourth Supplemental Agreement for the extra work requested by the FTA after our revised planning document was submitted in September, 2004. This additional work included the preparation of a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) and a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). These fees and scope have now been negotiated and were presented to the Regional Transportation Committee on January 13, 2005, as the Fourth Supplemental Agreement with HNTB. That item was subsequently forwarded with a favorable recommendation and was approved by the Board on February 1, 2005.

The processing of the Third and Fourth Supplemental Agreements does not in any way prevent progress from continuing on the North Corridor. In fact, on January 27, 2005, the Board approved a contract for completion of Preliminary Engineering (PE) on this corridor to the firm of Parsons Transportation Group (PTG). Work under this contract will advance design to approximately a 30% completion level and is scheduled to be completed in 9 months.

We expect all planning work on the North Corridor to be completed and approved by the FTA in the Fall of 2005. MDT is scheduled to receive a Record of Decision from the FTA at that time. This will allow MDT to request permission to begin final design and commence with the purchase of necessary right-of-way. The next and final step in the FTA approval process will come later in the form of a Full Funding Grant Agreement. That Agreement includes a multi-year federal commitment to fund the project for construction activities, leading to the start of revenue service after systems installation and testing is finalized.

  
Assistant County Manager

